

Scutellum smooth. Shoulders moderately developed, on the anterior slope finely punctated and shortly hairy. Furrows of the elytra above distinctly punctated, laterally broader and with transverse bacilli, the seventh and eighth furrow are broadest.

Tongue rather narrow, punctated, thinly tricarinate, laterally concave. Lower lip convex, with sparse punctation, its branches densely punctated. Waist, below, with diverging elongated, dull scars. Metasternum smooth, its hinder corners coarsely punctated, and the narrow sloping sides along the elytræ very finely punctated and hairy.

Abdominal segments with elongated, finely punctated lateral scars, broadest on the first few segments, linear on the penultimate and obsolete on the last. Lower side of prothorax the middle and hind tibiæ with short and rather thinly distributed hairs.

Hab.—Sikkim. I obtained a single specimen at about 1500 feet, some two miles east of Pankabari.

The species is intermediate between *cancrus* and *Andamanensis*; with the latter it agrees in the shape and structure of the head, with the former in the transverse costulation of the lateral furrows of the elytra, but in *cancrus* this costulation is still stronger.

NOTE ON SOME ANDAMANESE AND NICOBARESE REPTILES, WITH THE DESCRIPTION OF THREE NEW SPECIES OF LIZARDS,—*by* DR. F. STOLICZKA.

[Received and read 7th May, 1873.]

I have given a list of the Reptiles and Amphibians, known from these islands, in a former paper,—*Journal A. S. B.*, Vol. xxxix, pt. II, 1870, pp. 136-138 etc.; having, however, lately had an opportunity of visiting all the Nicobar islands (excluding Little Nicobar and Pulo Milu), and the Andamans, including the Cocos and Preparis, I am in a position to add a little information about some of the species. Our visit* was chiefly from an ornithological point of view, and as it fell already in the hot season (March), the time was very unfavorable for collecting reptiles, at least on the northern group of islands, which at this season are much drier than the southern Nicobars.

We found the following species generally distributed over nearly all the islands which we visited:—*Tropidonotus quincunciatus*, *Lycodon aulicus*, *Dendrophis pictus*,† *Cerberus rhynchops* and *Trimeresurus Cantoris*. Spe-

* In company with Mr. A. O. Hume, C. B., Messrs. Ball and Wood-Mason.

† In the July number of the *Berlin Monatsbericht* (for 1872, p. 583), just received, I observe that Dr. Peters describes a *Dendrophis terrificus*, with 13 rows of scales; it is very closely allied to *Dendrophis caudolineatus*, (compare ante p. 123), but differs in coloration.

cimens of *D. pictus* from the Nicobars generally are as soberly coloured as the continental form, while those from the Andamans are very much brighter, but the typical form again occurs on the Cocos.* The rare *Trimeresurus porphyraceus* was found to be common on the Preparis island; it grows to nearly four feet. Of lizards the most common were *Euprepes carinatus*, *Hinulia maculata*, *Cyrtodactylus rubidus*, *Tiaris suberistata* and *Hydrosaurus salvator*. Of Batrachians *Bufo melanostictus* is very common.

Euprepes macrotis, described by Steindachner, was observed in Galthea Bay on Great Nicobar (Sambelong).

The large Andaman form of *Euprepes carinatus*† is not specifically distinct from the common type. I met with similarly large specimens (up to 20 inches) on the Coco islands. Most of those which I obtained there have thirty rows of scales round the body, and each scale has *seven* keels, the three median ones being strong and distant from each other, the two laterals on either side short, thin and sometimes scarcely traceable. Some specimens have the anterior frontal in contact with the rostral as well as with the vertical, a short process of the anterior frontal separating the two posterior. The specimens were apparently in breeding dress. The whole sides of the head, neck and belly were vermilion or bright cinnabar red, the anterior extremities and the back were also strongly tinged with red. The entire sides of the body and of the tail and the extremities had numerous large, irregular white and black spots intermixed, giving the lizard quite a different appearance from the ordinary type. The white spots were most numerous along the edges of the back, but there is no marked white band present.

PHELSUMA ANDAMANENSE, Blyth.

Comp. Stoliczka in J. A. S. B., 1870, Vol. xxxix, pt. II, p. 162, and Anderson in P. Z. S. Lond. for 1871, p. 160.

The following is a complete description of this remarkable lizard.

Body rather stout, moderately depressed, tail tapering, narrow at the base, with transverse contractions at distances. Snout almost conically elongated, rostral broader than high, just reaching the upper surface of the head; nostrils lateral, in the hinder edge of an enlarged, somewhat swollen shield, followed by a slightly smaller one; on the upper side the two nasals are separated by two (rarely by three) shields. Head, body and limbs, above and at the sides, covered with equal granular scales, or rather shields,

* It is perhaps due to their more isolated situation that the Cocos and neighbouring islands, (Preparis, Narkondam, Barren island), have several Nicobar forms which on the Andamans are apparently wanting. We found *Carpophaga bicolor* common, *Calenas Nicobaricus* is said to have occurred on the Cocos, and *Megapodius* is found on Table island. Among shells I got numerous *Helicinæ*, exactly like *H. Dunkeri*, *Bulinus Nicobaricus*, var., *Cyclophorus*, like *C. nicobaricus*, &c.

† J. A. S. B., vol. xxxix, Pt. II., p. 170.

becoming on the tail more depressed, scale-like, and intermixed with a few larger ones. Eye of moderate size, with an almost round pupil; it is surrounded with small granules. Ear-opening ovately rounded, equal to about one third of the longer diameter of the eye. Eight to ten low upper labials. Lower rostral large, somewhat produced and contracted behind. Nine to ten lower labials, the first two are largest, not in contact, the succeeding gradually decrease in size. None of the chinshields are particularly enlarged, and they vary in arrangement in different specimens. The scales of the belly are roundly hexagonal, across the middle in twenty-one to twenty-three longitudinal, alternating series.

The adult male has thirty-one femoral pores, in an uninterrupted series, angularly ascending in the centre. The female has a similar row of enlarged but not perforated shields. Præanal shields not enlarged. A small slit exists on either side in the postanal margin. On the tail the subcaudals become a short distance from the anus enlarged, single, only occasionally broken up into smaller shields. The inner toes on both the fore- and hind-limbs are very short, almost rudimentary; the fourth toe is longest, and all have their front edges rounded.

The general colour in males is grass- or bluish-green, subject to very great changes during the life of the lizard; head and neck with yellowish orange spots and stripes, among which one from behind the eye, one or two across the occiput, and one along the middle of the neck are most conspicuous. The anterior part of the body is on the upper side marked with small, oval, orange spots, on the posterior part these spots are somewhat larger, encircled with yellow, and sometimes partly confluent. All these orange spots often assume during life a strong reddish tint. Tail generally uniform bluish green. The lower side is uniform yellow or yellowish white.

The females are more soberly coloured, particularly when not full grown, in which case the orange spots are much less distinct, and sometimes almost obsolete.

The lower sides of the toes, especially towards their terminations, are silvery grey.

The usual size of full grown males is five inches, head and body being two; specimens of six inches are great rarities. The females are generally somewhat smaller than the males.

The species is not uncommon about Port Blair. I found a few on old trunks of trees (between epiphytes) on Mt. Harriet. They generally hide themselves under the bark of trees, but also often feed on the ground. Mr. Wood-Mason about a year ago brought a large number of specimens from the vicinity of Port Blair. I have not seen specimens from any of the other islands.

GYMNODACTYLUS WICKSII, n. sp.

A small species, resembling in general character some of those described by Jerdon and Beddome from South India. The body is moderately slender and depressed, covered with very small, keeled tubercles which have the appearance of pointed granules; on the back there are numerous larger, but similarly formed, tubercles interspersed, and on the side of the belly these larger tubercles become distinctly spinulose; tail verticillate, with similar spinules, exactly as in *Hemidactylus frenatus*. On the snout the sharp granules are, as usually, somewhat larger than on the top of the head, but none are enlarged above the labials. The rostral reaches to the upper side of the snout, and is followed by two small shields, separated by a still smaller pentagonal azygos, the upper angle of which fits into a posterior emargination of the rostral. The nostril is lateral and directed somewhat backwards, it lies immediately behind the rostral, and is followed by two slightly enlarged and diverging shields, the anterior angles of which nearly touch the rostral, thus almost entirely isolating the nasal opening from the first labial and the shield behind the rostral. No particularly enlarged scales round the eye. Seven upper and lower labials, the first are in each case the longest, the succeeding gradually decrease in size, the last are very small; all are very low. Ear opening forms an oval, oblique slit, its distance from the eye is slightly less than that from the eye to the end of snout. Lower rostral large, obtusely pointed behind, followed on each side by a slightly enlarged shield, separated by smaller ones; there are no particularly enlarged chin-shields. The scales on the throat and anterior breast are finely keeled; those on the belly hexagonal and across the middle in about nineteen longitudinal series. Præ- or post-anals not enlarged. Sub-caudals along the middle line very little larger than the other shields covering the lower side. Reproduced portions of the tail are uniformly scaly, without enlarged tubercles.

The male has four præ-anal pores, situated between the femora in a shallow transverse depression, and quite separate from these are four or five femoral pores placed at the hinder lower edge of the femur, somewhat nearer to the hip than to the knee. Toes long and slender; basal portion with three or four transverse, squarish plates, the last the largest; terminal phalanges very much narrower.

Colour. Above, powdered brownish grey and white, a series of whitish, almost continuous spots along the middle of the back, extending on to the tail. There are six or seven of these spots from the nape to the base of the tail, and each of them is edged anteriorly and laterally with black, sometimes the lateral black edges develop into elongated spots and are most distinct. On the tail the white spots are less distinctly developed, but the transverse black margins well marked. The sides of the body, of the tail

and the upper side of the limbs is thinly checkered with black; the enlarged spinules and tubercles are all pure white. There is a dark streak between the snout and the eye, posteriorly there are three dark lines, one going to the occiput, the second to the ear, the third to the angle of the mouth; and generally there are one or two more below the eye, giving the side of the head quite an ornamental appearance. Labials spotted with white. Chin and throat powdered with brownish dusky, remainder of lower side uniform pale, more or less distinctly tinged with fleshy; in males more markedly so than in females. In the very young lizard (about one inch long) the lateral black spots along the back, and the median black line behind the eye are most distinctly marked, in other respects it does not differ from the adult.

Hab.—Preparis Island. I obtained five specimens, two apparently adult males and two females, and one young; all were found on the ground between old decaying vegetable matter. One of the largest specimens with perfect tail, measures: head and body 1.13, tail 1.37 = 2.5 inches. The length of the hind limb equals the distance from the shoulder to the groin.

I have great pleasure in connecting with this very interesting new species the name of the able Commander of the "Scotia," Capt. G. W. Wicks, who piloted us most skilfully through the labyrinth of small and large islands.

MOCOIA MACROTYPANUM, n. sp.

Body moderately slender, head flattened above, muzzle rather attenuated and prolonged. Anterior frontal in contact with the rostral, separating the two elongated nasals, and posteriorly just touching the vertical, which is rather shortly, obtusely angular in front, and gradually attenuated behind. Four enlarged supraciliaries, preceded and followed by a smaller shield. The two anterior occipitals (? accidentally) united, the median one roundly angular in front, attenuated and contracted behind, the two laterals narrow, in contact with each other behind the median shield. Four pairs of scales behind the occipitals enlarged, occupying the whole width of the neck. Seven upper labials, the fifth under the orbit, six narrow lower labials. First chin-shield single, the second is a pair in contact, third separated by a small shield, fourth pair somewhat smaller. Lower eyelid with a transparent disk. Ear opening very large, rounded, with a perfectly smooth edge all round, the tympanum being distinctly visible. Body in the middle surrounded by twenty-two longitudinal series of smooth scales, six series being on the back; they are slightly larger than those at the sides. About fifty-two scales along the edge of the lower side, counted between the fore and hind limbs. A pair of moderately enlarged præ-anal shields. Median row of sub-caudals slightly enlarged. Limbs proportionately developed, with the toes very slender.

Head above brown, paler on the muzzle; three longitudinal white bands along the body,—one along the middle, originating between the eyes, and two along the sides, beginning on the supraciliary edges;—they are separated, above, by two somewhat broader brown bands, each being lighter coloured along the centre, and bounded at the sides by a similar brown band which is, however, darkest along the centre. The median dorsal white band becomes obsolete at the root of the tail, the two lateral ones continue on it, and unite when approaching the tip. Labials and sides of head brownish, spotted with white. Lower portion of the sides and the entire lower surface livid carneous, most distinctly so, and tinged with bright orange, on the lower belly and on the tail, which is also on the upper side carneous, with a few white dots at the side of the base, and irregularly marked with pale brown on the lower surface. Limbs, above, with very close longitudinal brown lines, toes all distinctly powdered with pure white.

Total length four inches, the head and body being 1·8, the length of the fore limb is equal to the distance between the shoulder and the angle of the mouth, or one-third of the distance between the axil and the groin; the length of the hind limb is one-half of the same distance.

Hab.—South Andaman. The single specimen was obtained on a sandy beach in Macpherson's Straits.

TIARIS HUMER, n. sp.

A larger species than *T. suberistata*, and like this one with the crest interrupted above the shoulders, but the crest itself is very much more developed. The nuchal part is considerably higher than the dorsal one, on its convex edge it is composed of 13-15 lobes; the dorsal portion continues on to the tail, disappearing after about one-fourth of its length. None of the scales are at the lateral bases of the crest particularly enlarged. All scales on the body are distinctly and sharply keeled.

Head shelving and concave above; snout with a few enlarged scales along the centre; supraciliary edge sharp, its posterior end is separated by a short groove from a small tubercle following it. Two groups of enlarged conical scales on the upper side of the occiput; several (3-4) enlarged scales on the side of the head above the tympanum which is hardened near the centre, and about as large as the eye. Below the tympanum no scales are enlarged. Eight or nine upper labials and seven or eight lower labials; the scales adjoining the former are enlarged, and there is also a conspicuous row of slightly enlarged scales below the eye. A row of enlarged scales is separated from the lower labials by one of small scales. Scales on the side of the neck and body very small, arranged in somewhat irregular transverse series, with scattered larger ones intermixed; on the tail they gradually increase in size, but within a short distance of its base still have some

larger ones intermixed. On the limbs the scales are much larger, two or three on the upper side of the femora particularly so. Gular pouch and fold covered with small scales, which become larger on the lower belly than on its sides. The two rows of sub-caudals are slightly larger and more pointed than the shields on the upper side of the tail.

General coloration greenish olive, on the top of the head brownish; sides of the entire body more or less distinctly and rather densely reticulated and spotted with black and yellow; sides of head and neck and the gular sac tinged with purplish blue, labials spotted with blue. Chin mostly yellow; belly whitish, without spots. Tail brownish above, paler below, irregularly and indistinctly spotted with dusky.

Total length of one specimen 16 inches, of which head and body are 4·4 and the tail 11·6 inch. The fore limb when laid backwards extends beyond the groin, or almost to the præanal edge, and the hind limb when laid forwards fully reaches the anterior edge of the eye.

The above noticed characters readily separate the Nicobar species from *T. dilophus*, or *T. tuberculatus*, lately (P. Z. S. 1872, p. 533, pl. xxxviii) described by Dr. Günther from the East Indian Archipelago.

I obtained only two specimens (male and female) on the Nicobar island Tillangehang, but the species did not seem to be rare.

DIBAMUS NICOBARICUS, (Fitz.).

Rhinophidion nicobaricum, Fitz., Steindachner, Novara Rept. p. 52 and *Typhlosincus nicobaricus*, ibidem, p. 94.

I have two specimens for examination, one a male* and the other a female (known from dissection).

The male is six inches of which the tail is 0·9 inch; there are 24 longitudinal rows of scales round the body, and 48 transverse rows along the tail. The two extremities are on either side somewhat in front of the anus, towards which they converge; they are depressed, each lying in an oblique cavity, the intermediate space of the sacral region being flat, triangular and pointed above the anus. Each extremity is fully as long as the whole head,† it is covered on the upper side by three longitudinal rows of scales, narrowing towards the end which is occupied by a large, flat, nail-like scale.

The body of the female is somewhat stouter; it measures 5·5 inches, of which the tail is only 0·5 inch. The body is again surrounded by 24 longitudinal and the tail by 34 transverse rows of scales. On each side in front of the anus is an enlarged scale, separated by three small scales from the anal edge, and just in the place where the extremity in the male originates;

* This is in the Indian Museum and I am indebted to Dr. Anderson for the opportunity of examining it.

† In *D. Novæ-Guinææ* the extremity is only as long as the head is broad.

this large scale covers a small opening, in which internally a rather strong muscle terminates; the muscle is most probably emissible and retractile at the will of the animal.

All other characters are common to both sexes. The upper labial is separated from the rostral by a distinct groove. The shields are dark brown, almost blackish, with paler edges; paler below. The shields on the head are yellowish, and there are occasionally yellowish spots on the chin and throat, or on the lower side of the tail.

As compared with *Typhloscincus Martensii*, Peters, the snout of the Nicobar species is narrower, the head posteriorly broader, the eyes, although covered by skin, distinctly traceable, all points to which Steindachner drew attention when comparing the two, but the shields of the head, the number of scales round the body and on the tail are in both species quite the same. There is in *T. Martensii* also an enlarged scale above the anal edge, but it is nearer to it than in the Nicobar species. Still, if it were not for Peters' distinct statement, that out of three specimens of *T. Martensii* two are males, and one a female, both without any trace of extremities, I should have considered the specific distinction of the *D. Nicobaricus* from *T. Martensii* somewhat doubtful. The coincidence is certainly remarkable.

Dibamus was characterized by Dumeril and Bibron (Erpet. gen. v. p. 833) from two New-Guinean specimens, sent to them by Prof. Schlegel. Both specimens were apparently males, but Schlegel* says that these only possess a pair of posterior extremities, the females having none. And this is strictly in accordance with the observation made on the two Nicobar specimens.

DESCRIPTIONS OF TWO NEW SPECIES OF INDIAN LANDSHELLS,
by DR. F. STOLICZKA.

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The following descriptions have been drawn up with the view of supplementing the figures of them which are to be given by Mr. Theobald in the 'Conchologia Indica.' The first species is from the Shan-states, and was collected, several years ago, by Mr. Fedden; and the second was given to me by Mr. Foote who obtained it in the cotton soil district near Bolgaom, when on his geological tour.

* Comp. Berlin Akad. Monatsberichte for 1864, p. 271.